

Autumn 2018

The Villager



Issue 49

Papcastle & Belle View Newsletter



Hello all! I'm your new editor. The name's Jude Mennim and I live at Fern Cottage with my partner Jonathan. Some of you will know us and remember when we moved into the village seven years ago and renovated Lilian Barker's cottage – *seven years* how time flies!

Please bear with me whilst I find my feet in this new role, I have a thick skin so criticism is acceptable but I ask that you make it constructive.

If you have a story you would like told or hear of an interesting snippet which would lend itself to the publication, please get in touch with me either by email – msjmenim@hotmail.co.uk or call at the cottage. I do work shifts, so I would ask if you come to the cottage you check to see if the curtains are open – if they are closed I'll be sleeping, so please do not disturb!

I cannot finish without thanking my predecessor, Huw Morgan, and wish him well in the future.

Tour of Britain

Cockermouth was graced/blighted (depending who you speak to) with two days of the tour.

On the second day in true Lakeland style the heavens opened as the riders approached Belle Vue roundabout and those who went to spectate quickly left after the riders passed by (in less than a minute??) to avoid a soaking.

Les Barker, of Belle Vue captured this photograph containing some of the most recognisable faces in road racing today.



Eventual stage winner Wout Poels (Team Sky), followed by team mate and 2018 Tour de France winner Geraint Thomas, 2017 Tour de France winner Chris Froome

View *The Villager* at www.papcastle.org.uk—click on 'Newsletter'

Papcastle Village BBQ 7th July 2018

Many weeks of bright blue skies and brilliant sunshine guaranteed fine weather for our annual village BBQ, add to that the buzz of England's 2-1 win against Sweden in the FA Cup and we were set to have a celebratory night. David, whilst lighting the coals, could hear the cheers, down in the town, as each goal was scored!



A flurry of final tickets sold on the actual day meant we had a total sell out. A few frantic text messages were sent out to bump up the salads and beg an extra pudding or two so no one would go hungry, and we were set.

With a glass of Pimms or alternative welcome drink in hand attendees gathered

outside in the evening sunshine catching up with neighbours and friends whilst children enjoyed the freedom of space to play in the lane and catch up with each other until their supper was ready. It is wonderful to get the village together and to hear the buzz of happy laughter and clink of glasses.

Our gallant chefs David, Brian, & Brian deftly flipped the meat and tempted us all with wafts of mouth watering aromas around the village.

A change of crew this year meant we have exchanged two Pauls for two Brians, so much so that David Rushton was made an honorary "Brian" for the night. All three "Brians" appeared quite adept with their BBQ tongs and provided their own banter whilst cooking up a storm.

Thanks gents for doing such a great job.

When the meat was ready, many hungry bods gathered to pile their plates with BBQ food and an array of wonderfully healthy salads, which had been made by the organising team, a feast in themselves, which enabled many to come round for a second helping.

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However, I am now starting to feel that the Puddings may be the highlight of our BBQ evening! You can feel the excitement building as the puddings are displayed. WOW WOW WOW ... What a sumptuous array again this year, all of them wonderful. Our thanks to the many multi talented ladies who enable us to sample a wide variety of sweet delights.

Thanks also must go to the bar staff keeping us all lubricated throughout the evening and also to the many other helpers behind the scenes, setting up the hall, washing up and tidying up the hall the following morning. The many hands that pitch in running up to, on the day and after the event make this evening the success it has become.

It was good to welcome some new faces who have recently moved into the village: Debbie & Ash + kids from Belle Vue, Andrew and Jocelyn from Sunnyside, Dorothy & Keith at Oakleigh, Kathryn, Brian & Jacob, Susie & Rick + kids from the Mount. The look of amazement on their faces as the puddings kept appearing I think will hopefully encourage them to return again next year!



We gratefully received many generous contributions to the raffle prizes on the night, plus kind donations from villagers who were unable to attend, all very much appreciated. The Raffle alone raised £167.00.

Lastly but by no means least a special thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make the event a huge success, our best ever. All in all a very happy and enjoyable evening. Hopefully see you all next year!

Total money raised for the Village Hall was £846.40

The BBQ Posse

Ali, Debbie, Judith, Michelle, Rose, Sarah.

By Debbie Rushton

(Thanks to Bob Henderson for the photographs).

Parish Council Highlights

The Parish Council met on the 4th September with apologies for absence from Brian Merris, Councillor Nikki Cockburn (Allerdale Borough Council) Councillor Janet Farebrother (Allerdale Borough Council) and Cumbria Constabulary.

There was no public participation in the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of the 4th July were approved as a true record. (note that these Minutes and the Agenda for the September meeting are available on the village website: Papcastle.org.uk).

Police Report: 4A written report was available which listed two incidents in the vicinity of the village; the theft of a horsebox trailer from a field off the A595, and equipment theft from business premises in an unspecified location.

Matters arising: The storm damaged cherry tree on The Mount had been thinned and the damaged limb removed by Cumbria County Council. The overhanging shrubs on the corner of The Mount adjacent to No.59 will be reported to the County Council for reduction.

It was noted that some gullies had been cleared of debris, but further action was needed. The Parish Council asked Mr Trohear to investigate.

Report from County and District Councillors: Councillor Hanson reported that Cumbria County Council had been focusing on improving governance and focus, with positive results.

A written report had been received from Councillor Cockburn which pointed out that Allerdale Borough Council had, in the last week, issued the Allerdale Local Plan Part II and that specifically there were no large packets of land allocated for housing development in the Parish.

Defibrillator: The parish Council had been approached regarding the possible installation of an AED Defibrillator in the redundant telephone kiosk at the corner of the Mount which had been in reduced service for some time, usable only for emergency calls. NHS North West had offered to provide a new defibrillator and arrange installation, provided the Parish Council undertook to fund ongoing consumables, and undertook to check the function regularly. After some discussion with the Village Hall Trustees, it was decided that we would agree to the removal of the out-of-date Defibrillator from the porch of the Village Hall and agree to the modern public access device in the 'phone box'.

Village website: The parish Council had accepted that it was the de facto owner of the Website, and had agreed to fund the annual service subscription for the domain name. The website had recently been brought up to date with all Parish Council Meeting Minutes and Agendas, and relevant documents relating to General Data Protection regulations.

Planning applications to consider: None

Planning decisions (by Parish Council):

2/2018/0249 – application for approval of reserved matters following outline application 2/2016/06313, single dwelling, West Winds Cottage. - agreed

Any Other Business: The issue of poor or inconsiderate parking in the village was discussed again, but it was recognised that the Parish Council had limited powers to improve matters. Notices had been posted in the Village Hall encouraging users to act with consideration.



A Level Results

Congratulations to Sophie Douglas on her A level success. She is leaving for Lancaster in September to study Adult Nursing at the University of Cumbria (Lancaster Campus).

Good Luck!

On Writing An Article

The difficulty I find in writing an article is not writing the article, but in choosing the subject. Not because the subjects are few, but that there are so many... and I hate making up my mind!

Rather like a statesman of yore who used to find it so difficult to make a choice that he would stand at his door looking up the street and down the street and finally go inside again, because he couldn't decide whether to go up or down, I have always had a great deal of sympathy with that personage, for I share his temperamental indecision. For example, where shall I go for a holiday? Bournemouth? Certainly. How jolly that walk along the sands by Poole Harbour to Studland and over the hills to Swanage. But think of the Lake District... and North Wales... and Devon... and Cornwall...

But today I think I will pen a very brief essay on happiness, blessings and a sense of wellbeing, all in the hope that it may perhaps be read by somebody in need of a helping hand. I find world events today can be very sombre and dispiriting and surely I cannot be the only one to feel like this? So sit back and enjoy my little story which I trust will help rejuvenate your spirits, and it is very short too!

I had a singular dream last night. I found myself on an island, in bright sunshine, by the sea shore. I was alone but without any sense of solitude. Indeed I was entirely happy and free from care. Even now that I am awake I can still feel the sunshine and the peace of the sands and the sea, and I am half disposed to request my friendly genie who wafted me away to leave me there, wrapped in my dreams of sunshine, peace and plenty. So in all likelihood, I will repeat the experiment and urge him into activity again as I have a number of schemes to put before him. Would anyone like to join me?

By David Thomas

Goodbye to Greg and Gill

After three decades in the village, Greg and Gill Greenhalgh recently said a fond farewell to Papcastle to begin a new chapter of their lives in Cockermouth. Their five children, David, Andrew, Jon, Rachel and Robyn 'flew the nest' from Cedar Lodge some years ago and Greg and Gill felt it was time to 'right size' to a new home more suited to their needs. Greg, a former editor of 'The Villager' said; "we were very sad to be saying goodbye to our long-standing friends and neighbours in Papcastle but are now looking forward to building a new home in Cockermouth".

Both Greg and Gill were very active in the village community. Gill worked with other villagers to run a Papcastle Youth Club in the late 1990's and was instrumental - pardon the pun- in setting up the Papcastle Community Orchestra in the early 2000's. She also organised the Papcastle Open Garden Scheme which raised monies for local charities as well as bringing together the village community. Gill's community singing group, Voice Dot Com, performed in the Village Hall in the aftermath of the 2009 floods raising funds for the Flood Action Group. Greg meanwhile worked closely with other villagers in the same year to publish a history of Papcastle.

Both keen Ballroom Dancers, Greg & Gill used the Village Hall throughout the autumn of 2014 teaching local celebrities to dance for a fund raising spectacular at the Kirkgate Centre. We too were sad to say goodbye to Greg & Gill but send them best wishes for their new life in Cockermouth.



Request from the editor...

As some of you will know I hark from the North East, growing up in South Shields. My mother still lives there and has recently been discussing WW2 with her friend Mavis Harbottle. Both Mavis and her husband David were evacuated to the area, Mavis being only 5 years old at the time. I have acquired a book about the evacuees from Mavis which she bought some time ago whilst on a visit to Cockermouth. It got me thinking and I thought it may make a good article for the Villager. I would like to hear from anyone who has any recollections of those times – were you evacuated? Do you remember the impact of having evacuees imposed upon the area? Or did you have evacuees stay with you? Please get in touch.

The Allotment

If you have ever wandered down the lane to the river and wondered what was behind the gate on the right hand side, here is your answer. This secret garden is a place of much sweat, many midge bites and a few tears. Like when your carefully sown row of parsnips just doesn't appear. When the mice have nibbled most of your beetroot. When the birds have eaten all your cherries before they are even ripe. When the slugs get the better part of the lettuce. And when you can't face the sight of another courgette.

But it is beautiful. And peaceful (except for the building works going on over the other side of the river). And somehow has a calming effect after even the most stressful of days. Even when we are carting kegs of water down to keep our seedlings alive in the recent drought. Or doing battle with the nettles, docks and thistles.

Several villagers have taken a turn at growing their own down there and, sadly, some have



fallen by the wayside, defeated by the weeds. But three teams still battle on, enjoying bumper crops of beans, peas, strawberries, black and redcurrants, gooseberries, onions, leeks, potatoes, kale, broccoli, calabrese, squashes, pumpkins, courgettes, cabbage, apples, pears, lettuce etc...

Being on the flood plain, the ground is very fertile, and the owner Robert Jackson says that it has always been an orchard and vegetable garden. We are thankful that he allows us to rent this precious space. If you are interested in any of the produce, or simply want to spend a little time down there, maybe pulling up the odd dandelion, picking some apples or clipping the hedgerows, please contact Jilly and James (Holly Lodge), Jude (Fern Cottage) or Rosemary and Andrew (Hill Cottage).

By Jilly Douglas

REGULAR VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

Mahjong Brian Wilkinson 01900 829490
Monday 2:00-5:00pm *All year except public holiday*

Keep Fit Tony McGorrian 01900 64632
Monday 6.30-7.30pm *School term only*

Parish Council David Johnson 01900 8221355
1st Tuesday evening *Bi monthly*

Yoga Pat Irving 07962127812
Thursday 6.30-8.00pm

Line Dancing Carol Smith 01900 821590
Friday afternoons *weekly*



Village Hall Bookings:

Rose Rowlands

01900 828941

Village Hall Trustees

Bill Mavir 07717717459	Robert Jackson 827071	Carolyn Otley 821204
Debbie Rushton 824831	Doreen Bertram 826196	Gill Conlon 828 360
Rose Rowland 828941	Ian Trohear 823680	Phil Balgue



What's on at St Bridget's Church, Bridekirk:

Age UK lunch every Monday 12noon – 2:30pm in the Church Room

Bell ringing practice every Monday at 7:30pm. Details from Richard Green 01900 824311

Baby to pre-school club every Wednesday 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Church Room. Details from Mary Stothard 01900 823395

Usual Monthly Services

Services at 11:00am

1st Sunday Holy Communion and Sunday School

2nd Sunday All Age Service

3rd Sunday Holy Communion and Sunday School

4th Sunday Morning Prayer and Sunday School

Additional Services

Sunday 7th October 11:00am Harvest Festival and Holy Communion

Sunday 14th October 11:00am All Age Harvest Festival

Sunday 11th November 10:45am All Age Remembrance Service